

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/687,007

Examiner

Tim Bonura

Applicant(s)

BRAMLEY, RICHARD A.

Art Unit

2114

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 October 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_

  
**NADEEM IQBAL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

1. Claims 1-14 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. Regarding claims 1 and 9:
  - a. The prior art of record teach of a computer system with a ROM-based diagnostics routine for a personal computer requiring little hardware or software to execute that user can invoke at any time without having to reboot the computer. Schieve, et al, U.S. Patent Number 5,398,333 is such an example of the prior art. The prior art of record does not teach singly or in combination with another art the limitation of changing the EFI so that RAM is reserved for BIOS as a diagnostic disk and store that information on the RAM. In the Examiner's opinion, the subject matter sought to be patented as recited in the claims in this application has practical applications in the field of computer reliability.
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Tim Bonura**.
  - The examiner can normally be reached on **Mon-Fri: 8:30-5:00**.
  - The examiner can be reached at: **571-272-3654**.
- If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the examiner's supervisor, **Rob Beausoliel**.
  - The supervisor can be reached on **571-272-3645**.

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- The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are:
  - 703-872-9306 for all patent related correspondence by FAX.
- Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).
- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is: 571-272-2100.
- Responses should be mailed to:
  - Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Tim Bonura  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2114



tmb  
December 26, 2004

NADEEM IQBAL  
MARY EXAMINER